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Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 01446 242026Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AGRE-00 USIA-06 AID-05 EB-08 AF-10 ARA-10
EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 COME-00 ISO-00 TRSE-00 OIC-02
IOE-00 /088 W
----------123300 242035Z /64
P 241715Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 118
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN

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FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: UN, AORG
SUBJECT: FAO BUDGET-ROME/GENEVA GROUP MEETING

REFS: ROME 15608 B) ROME 19684:

1. AFTER CONSULTATION WITH UK PERMREP WE HAVE CALLED ROME GENEVA GROUP (GGL MEETING FOR JANUARY 26 TO ORGANIZE WORK FOR 1978. PARAS TWO AND THREE BELOW OUTLINE OUR PLANS FOR THIS MTG IN EVENT DEPARTMENT WISHES COMMENT.

2. MAIN PURPOSE WILL BE TO REACTIVATE GG SUB-COMMITTEE ON BUDGET AND FINANCE IN ORDER TO FOCUS ON DEPARTMENT'S (SAFPBA) PAPER AND WHO COMMENTS ON IT, AND TO SUGGEST MEANS OF ADAPTING IT TO ANALYSIS OF FAO BUDGET FOR 1980-81, ESPECIALLY IN LIGHT OF ROME GG 1977 COMMENTS ON SAFPBA (REF A), WOULD HOPE PROVIDE INITIAL RESULTS PRIOR TO FEB. 23-24 MEETING OF EXPERTS IN GENEVA.IN THIS CONNECTION, WE BELIEVE PARTICIPATION OF MEMBER OF ROME GENEVA GROUP IN EXPERTS MEETING FEB, 23-24 COULD BE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 ROME 01446 242026Z

USEFUL. AS WE HAVE INDICATED IN REF, B FURTHER STUDIES WHICH DEPARTMENT AND GENEVA HAS MORE RECENTLY, UNDERTOOK LAST SUMMER TO PROVIDE WILL BE IMPORTANT INPUT FOR OUR EFFORTS.

3. ALSO PLAN TO REFOCUS AND RE-ACTIVIATE SECOND ROME GG SUB-

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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COMMITTEE ON EXTRABUDGETARY COSTS REORIENTING IT SOMEWHAT TO FOCUS MORE BROADLY ON FAO FIELD ACTIVITIES. THIS MIGHT INCUDE: TCP AND ITS EVALUATION: IMPACT ON REGUALR FAO BUDGET OF FAO ADMINISTRATION OF EXTRABUDGETARY PROGRAMS (14 PERCENT OVER-HAD ISSUE):
IMPACT OF EXPANSION OF FAO COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVES: AND EVALUATIO OF FAO REGIONAL OFFICES AND FAO FIELD WORK (BOTH BY FAO AND BY GG MEMBERS). RATINALE WOULD BE THAT IF WE SUPPORT GREATER FAO EMPHASIS ON WORK IN FIELD BUT WANT TO RESTAIN ITS GROWTH WITHIN REGULAR BUDGET, WE NEED TO KANOW MORE ABOUT FAO COSTS AS THEY RELATE TO GROWING EXTRABUDGETARY WORK IN FIEDL AS THIS IS MOST LIKELY AREA OF FUTURE BUDGETARY GROWTH, ESPECIALLY SINCE FAO AGGUES THAT IT IS UNDERCOMPENSATED AT 14 PERCENT OVERHEAD RATE.

5. IN LIGHT PRESIDENT'S REMARKS IN N.Y. LAST OCTOBER ON COM-TROLLING COSTS AND AVOIDING POSSIBLE DUPLICATION BETWEEN U.S. AND U.N. FUND WORK, WOULD APPRECIATE KNOWING CURRENT IO THOUGHTS ONHOW TO GET BETTER U.S. EVALUATION OF U.N. FIELD PROJECTS THAN CURRENTLY AVAILABLE THRU CERP REQUIREMENTS.

6. WITH RESPECT TO 14 PER ENT OVERHEAD ISSUE, WOULD APPRECIATE REPORT OF RESULTS OF LATEST MEETING IN NEW YORK ON THIS ISSUE.GARDNER

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